GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1690
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2005
CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and 16 other Like-Minded-Megadiverse Countries (LMMC) have decided to cooperate with each other to develop strategies for conservation of biodiversity;

(b) if so, the countries with which such cooperation agreement/understanding has been reached and the terms of the cooperation/agreement, and the specific areas of bio-diversity aimed at; and

(c) the mutual benefits arising therefrom?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. India and sixteen other countries rich in biological diversity and associated traditional knowledge have formed a group known as the Like-Minded Megadiverse Countries (LMMC). These seventeen countries are: Bolivia, Brazil, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, and Venezuela.

The Group has agreed to join efforts for effectively negotiating the development of an international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit sharing arising out of the use of these resources, under the aegis of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

(c) The Group of LMMCs has been created to act as a mechanism for consultation and cooperation to promote their interests and priorities related to the preservation and sustainable use of biological diversity with a view to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of their biological resources and associated traditional knowledge as envisaged under the Convention on Biological Diversity.